

LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Regular Board Meeting  
July 13, 2016 – 10:00 A.M.

Chairman Walls called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Commissioner Vayda gave the prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Clerk Williams called the Roll with the following Commissioners present:

Barb Stenger, Chuck Vayda, John Brunn, John Fairbanks, Colleen Carrington-Atkins, Karl Walls  
Absent was Dan Sloan

Commissioner Fairbanks moved that the agenda be approved; seconded by Vayda and with a Voice Vote, it was approved.

Commissioner Fairbanks moved that the minutes from June 22, 2016 be approved; seconded by Vayda and with a Voice Vote, it was approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Heidi Alfrey Gamble stated that at the last meeting, a long-term employee was not given an overdue and well deserved raise and that the Clerk's office did not receive their move to a 40-hour work week, because of how it came before them. She stated that a member of the Board did not want to approve these measures because he felt it would cause dissension amongst the other employees. She further stated that a month ago, the Board approved for 1 employee to receive a 20% raise that had only been here less than a year. She felt that this did not come to them in the proper way, because it was brought up at an outside meeting and then put on the agenda at the last minute. She went on to talk about the Board wanting to get rid of the "good old boys club." She also stated that there are inconsistent actions taking place. She went on to say that at the last meeting, the Board extended the hiring freeze, and then approved to hire someone in the very next vote. She said that there is one set of rules for the good old boys and one set of rules for everybody else. She wants the Board to keep this in mind as they make decisions for this county.

**FINANCE**

- A. Commissioner Fairbanks moved to approve the semi-monthly detail analysis dated July 13, 2016 totaling \$195,998.67; seconded by Atkins.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Atkins, Vayda, Fairbanks, Brunn, Stenger, Walls  
Nays: None  
Absent: Sloan

Motion carried

- B. Commissioner Fairbanks moved to approve the 3 departmental purchase requisitions in excess of \$1,000 dated July 13, 2016; seconded by Brunn.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Stenger, Brunn, Atkins, Fairbanks, Vayda, Walls  
Nays: None

Absent: Sloan

Motion carried

Commissioner Sloan arrived at 10:15 a.m.

- C. Commissioner Fairbanks moved to approve Resolution #1352 Lake Level expenses over \$10,000; seconded by Atkins.

Commissioner Walls had questions about the items coming in regarding the lake level project. Administrator Lake met with Steve Leonard to put together a timeline for the construction of the project.

Commissioner Sloan wanted to know if there shouldn't be a revision to the Resolution to include that the County would be reimbursed for this cost through assessments from the Lake District. Sloan stated that it was his understanding that the County would be just fronting the money. Lake replied "no," that this Resolution was because there are provisions in the law that states that any drain authority cannot spend more than \$10,000 in any given year without Board approval. More discussion followed regarding the breakdown of how much the project will cost and any special assessments that would occur in the future.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Brunn, Atkins, Fairbanks, Sloan, Vayda, Stenger, Walls

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Motion carried

- D. Commissioner Fairbanks moved to accept the FY 2015 Annual Audit as presented; seconded by Stenger.
- E. Commissioner Sloan moved to temporarily table the motion to accept the FY 2015 Annual Audit as presented; and with a Voice Vote, it was approved.

Steven Kirinovic from Abraham & Gaffney, P.C., was available to discuss and answer questions regarding the 2015 Annual Audit. He spoke at length about the overall audit process. He stated that the biggest change was the GASB statement in that the net pension liability will now appear on the face of the statements. Kirinovic proceeded to go step-by-step through the financial statement with the Board of Commissioners and allowed for questions to be asked and answered.

Commissioner Sloan left the room at 10:26 a.m. and returned at 10:37 a.m.

Kirinovic went into detail regarding the retiree health insurance and there was lots of discussion on how it will be paid for moving forward. Commissioner Sloan wants the unfunded liability for the OPEB costs to be addressed.

Being no further discussion there was a Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Vayda, Sloan, Stenger, Fairbanks, Atkins, Brunn, Walls

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Motion carried

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Lake County Building Department Permit Summary report for June, 2016 –

Michigan County Social Services Association e-mail and application – The application was designed to allow individuals making appointments to DHHS Boards, greater insight into each candidate, which will then give them the ability to hire highly qualified members. Commissioner Sloan stated that he believed that the Commission restricted the Board members' ability from paying the association dues. He wants our appointees to look out for the interest of Lake County and not just the interest of the DHHS.

Commissioner Sloan left the room at 11:06 a.m. and returned at 11:09 a.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Region 6 - 800 MHZ radio discussion – Administrator Lake stated that according to Don Divis, 6 townships were given grant funds to purchase 3 radios for their fire departments. He stated that there used to be an annual fee of \$100 per radio, per year for the state to administer them. Lake also stated that Don said that some of the fire departments had paid and some had not. He further stated that he had spoken with the Treasurer's office, and they told him that there were 3 outstanding invoices for fire departments. Lake stated that Irons, Luther and Baldwin departments have already paid the state, but Webber, Lake and Yates departments have not yet paid.

Commissioner Fairbanks wants to sit down with all fire chiefs and everyone else involved and talk about this issue and decide what to do about it. Commissioner Sloan stated in fairness that the County should not have to pay for those departments that have not paid.

Commissioner Sloan left the room at 11:23 a.m. and returned at 11:27 a.m.

Commissioner Stenger stated that she does not believe that this is a township issue simply because there are some townships that do not belong to Lake County's fire districts naming Dover Township as one of those townships whom contracts with Tustin.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Commissioner Sloan moved to reconsider the approval of BA #14822 to move money forward from 2015 to 2016 in the Road Patrol Fund for the auto insurance claim in the amount of \$24,443.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Brunn, Stenger, Atkins Fairbanks, Sloan, Walls

Nays: Vayda

Absent: None

Motion carried

- B. Commissioner Sloan moved to approve of BA #14822 to move money forward from 2015 to 2016 in the Road Patrol Fund for the auto insurance claim in the amount of \$24,443; seconded by Brunn.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Atkins, Fairbanks, Stenger, Brunn, Sloan, Walls

Nays: Vayda

Absent: None

Motion carried

C. The motion was made to reconsider the change of the Clerk's Office hours from 37.5 to 40 hours per week and with a Voice Vote, it was approved.

D. Commissioner Atkins moved to change the Clerk's office hours from 37.5 to 40 hours per week; seconded by Walls.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Vayda, Brunn, Atkins, Fairbanks, Stenger, Walls

Nays: Sloan

Absent: None

Motion carried

E. Commissioner Fairbanks moved to change the Clerk's office hours from 37.5 to 40 hours per week effective July 18, 2016; seconded by Atkins.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Fairbanks, Stenger, Brunn, Vayda, Atkins, Walls

Nays: Sloan

Absent: None

Motion carried

#### LAKE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION review and appointment of applicants

Commissioner Walls appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. The two members shall be appointed for a term ending at noon, January 1, 2017, and thereafter for three-year terms: **Commissioner Stenger and Commissioner Brunn**
2. The two members shall be appointed for a term ending at noon, January 1, 2018, and thereafter for three-year terms: **Commissioner Atkins and Heidi Alfrey Gamble**
3. The three members shall be appointed for a term ending at noon, January 1, 2019, and thereafter for three-year terms: **Stiles Simmons, Bobbi Keefer and Daniel Cousar**

**There will also be at least 1 person from the Planning Commission and 1 person from the Road Commission appointed.**

There was a Voice Vote, and it was approved.

F. Commissioner Fairbanks had concerns that it was not passed at the previous board meeting to move Annie up 2-steps on the pay scale.

Commissioner Walls clarified that part of the reason the motion failed was because the correct process was not followed. Walls also stated that Chief Deputy Dagen has since resubmitted his paperwork to the County Administrator and the Administrator has submitted the request to the Personnel Committee. Commissioner Sloan stated that this request will be followed up at the next Personnel meeting on July 21, 2016.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Tobi Lake passed out a copy of his version of a timeline for the IT Position.

He discussed PA 244 of 2016 regarding the requirement to have multi-line phone systems updated to 911 technologies. There is a conference call scheduled with Abilitia to decide what it will take for the County to be compliant with the law.

Lake gave a reminder on the MAC conference.

Lake discussed a tax increase passed by voters in Michigan regarding personal property taxes.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ron Griffin, Supervisor of Yates Township had more questions on the previous conversation regarding the radios and why there will only be meetings held with just the fire chiefs. He wants more clarity.

Allen Dean wanted everyone to know that he is running for Commissioner of District #3. He has lived in Ellsworth Township since 1959; he is married with two kids, has a business and was in the military for six years.

Betty Dermeyer wanted everyone to know that she is running for Commissioner of District #3. She has lived in this county for 21 years and her husband was Undersheriff for 15 ½ years. She knows the ins and outs of the county, raised her two children here and has 22 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. She has also sat on different boards.

## **COMMISSIONER'S PRIVILEGE**

Commissioner Stenger apologized for missing the last meeting. She stated that Five-Cap is looking for a Head Accountant.

Commissioner Fairbanks also apologized for missing the last meeting in Webber Township.

Commissioner Atkins mentioned that Idlewild is having their regular concerts this year. They just had one this past weekend and there are more scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays in August. There is a Homecoming Concert on the 6<sup>th</sup> that will be free. Also there is the Heritage Festival to be held next weekend. She feels that it is important to note the contribution that Idlewild has been making to the economic development of Lake County.

Commissioner Vayda stated that there is another Meet and Greet to be held at the Idlewild Lot Owner's Club on Friday July 15, 2016 at 5 p.m., and everyone is welcome.

Commissioner Walls thanked everyone for coming out today.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.